



# The Pensioner: In the Moment

Welcome to the **BRAND NEW** digital MPERS' newsletter! *The Pensioner: In the Moment* contains news, updates, and important information for retirees of the Missouri Department of Transportation, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and MPERS.

## A Word from the Executive Director



As MPERS continues to evolve, we strive to find better and more efficient ways to serve our members, the beneficiaries of this System. I am pleased to announce the initiation of MPERS' newsletter in digital format. It is our intention to distribute these concise and timely editions on a more frequent basis, to be sure you are informed and up to date on important issues relevant to the retirement system. Please take a moment to read our newsletters as they are intended to be informative and advise you about the important benefit you have earned from MPERS.

Scott Simon  
Executive Director

## Funded Status Continues to Increase

MPERS' funded status increased from 59.8% in 2019 to 60.6% in 2020. The funded status is an indicator of overall health of the System. To learn more about MPERS' financial status, check out Executive Director Scott Simon's Financial Status Update below.



## Every End Is a New Beginning

MPERS' Assistant Executive Director, Greg Beck, retired on January 1, 2020, after 32 years of state service.

Mr. Beck began his career at the state auditor's office in 1988, and spent the majority of his career serving as the internal auditor at the Missouri State Employees' Retirement System (MOSERS). In 2016 he began his position at MPERS as the assistant executive director.

The new assistant executive director is no stranger to MPERS. Greta Bassett-Seymour has been general counsel at



Greta Bassett-Seymour (left)  
and Greg Beck (right)

MPERS for over 6 years. She now serves dual roles as assistant executive director and general counsel.

## MPERS' Publications Win Awards



MPERS' 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report recently received the certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the 15th year that MPERS has received this award. [Read more...](#)



MPERS' 2019 Popular Annual Financial Report, "MPERS FYI" recently received an award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

## In Memoriam



We would like to recognize Jane\*, our eldest payee, who passed away recently at the age of 106. Jane was the survivor beneficiary of one of our members who passed away in 1981; a short seven years after his retirement. Because of the survivor benefit that MPERS offers, Jane was able to continue receiving a monthly benefit for the next 39 years until her passing in 2020.

Jane's story is a reminder of the value of the MPERS pension benefit. Jane didn't need to worry about losing her husband's pension benefit once he passed away. MPERS is a defined benefit pension plan and the benefit is payable for the lifetime of the retiree, and if a survivor payment option is selected at retirement, it is payable for the lifetime of the survivor. Even when the survivor lives to be 106.

\*Name changed for privacy



## Upcoming Events

- **5** Audit Committee meeting
- **11** Veterans Day, office closed
- **19** Board meeting
- **26-27** Thanksgiving, office closed
- **30** Payday

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We value your feedback!

What would you like to see in ***The Pensioner: In the Moment?***  
Send comments and suggestions to [Julie.West@mpers.org](mailto:Julie.West@mpers.org).